(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the World Bank has also stated that the power sector in the country is currently inadequately positioned to support the goals, especially in Andhra Pradesh; and

(f) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) The Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL) signed a Loan Agreement for an amount of US$ 400 million with the World Bank on May 2, 2006 which became effective in December, 2006.

(b) The above loan from the World Bank is being utilized for implementation of various Regional transmission projects of the PGCIL wherein all the States in the respective Region are beneficiaries of the project. An amount of US$ 151.60 million has already been utilized under this loan till July, 2007.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) The World Bank extends assistance according to its Country Assistance Strategy.

Inquiries on laboratories of CSER

2260. SHRI A. VUAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the office of Chief Vigilance Officer of CSIR and the CBI had initiated inquiries against various CSIR laboratories during the last one year;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the nature of irregularities examined by the CVO, CSIR in the Indian Institute of Genomic and Integrative Biology, Delhi, NIST and NCL;

(c) the details of Directors of various institutes of CSIR who are responsible and are facing inquiries/irregularities as reported by various officials, including CBI and the CVO as on date, institute-wise; and

(d) the reasons for removing the Chief Vigilance Officer of CSIR during July, 2007, before completing his tenure?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) The Office of Chief Vigilance Officer (CVO) had not initiated inquiries (departmental) against the various CSIR labs, during the last one year. However, CBI had registered a case against some officials of National Institute of Interdisciplinary Science and Technology (NUST), Thiruvananthapuram in the matter relating to setting up of Fresh Chilli Processing Plant at Bayadagi in Karnataka and also a PE (Preliminary Enquiry) into the alleged "misconduct and suspected connivance and undue official favours" to the Contractor in the case of Special Structural repairs of Main Lab. Building at Indian Institute of Chemical

Technology (IICT), Hyderabad. CBI conducts investigation on its own or on the basis of source information.

(b) The details pertaining to the aforesaid cases are:

(i) NUST had allegedly awarded the contract of setting up of Fresh Chilli Processing Plant at Bayadagi in Karnataka without following the prescribed procedure and instruction on the subject and abused their official position as public servant to cause pecuniary advantage to the Contractor, M/s Japro Engineers Pvt. Ltd., Flower Vally, 1st Flower, Eastern Exp. Highway, Thane - 400601, Maharashtra.

(ii) A team of CTE Chief Technical Examiner (CVC) had conducted the intensive examination of work of structural repairs of the main building of IICT, Hyderabad during 22.5.2006 to 25.5.2006. While follow-up action on the Intensive Examination Report received from CTE was being taken and replies to some of the observations of CTE had already been sent to them, an endorsement dated 1.1.2007 of the PE Registration Report in the matter was received from CBI intimating that the Bureau had registered a PE on the basis of source information alleging that undue favours have been shown to M/s India Guniting Corporation, New Delhi, the firm which executed the work of special structural repairs Work of the main lab. building of nCT, Hyderabad.

In view of pending CBI enquiry, the CTE case has been held in abeyance.

No irregularities were examined by CVO, CSIR in respect of IGIB and NCL.

(c) None of the Directors is facing inquiry (departmental inquiry). Investigation and processing of complaints and irregularities is an on-going process in the vigilance set-up. These are processed keeping in view all the laid down procedures and norms and also keeping in view CVC's instructions issued from time to time.

(d) The outgoing CVO, was an internal officer of CSIR at the rank of Senior Deputy Secretary. In the light of the approved guidelines of the CVC and in accordance with the procedure laid down by the DoPT for the appointment of CVO in publicly funded organizations, a reference had been made by the CSIR to CVC. Based on the advice of the CVC to appoint a full time external CVO, and the approval of the panel suggested by the DoPT in keeping with the requirements of the nature and structure of scientific and industrial research activities of CSIR, the new CVO has been appointed.

International Coffee Genome Network

2261. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India is a partner to the International Coffee Genome Network;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the benefits derived from it for development of markers, ESTs and transformation for disease resistance during the year?